

NEWS FROM NORTH CAROLINA.

The Capture of Fort Macon Officially Confirmed.

All the Guns on the Side Attacked Dismounted.

Wilmington, N. C., Reported Captured by Gen. Burnside.

Details of the Battle Near Elizabeth City.

Fortress Monroe, May 1, 1862.
Hon. E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War.—
Enclosed are the reports of the capture of Fort Macon, taken after eleven hours' bombardment. Four hundred prisoners were taken. Colonel White, late of the Ordnance Department, commanded Fort Macon. Loss on our side one killed and eleven wounded.

Fortress Monroe, May 1, 1862.
The steamer Julia Farrer arrived from Newbern this morning, having left that place on Tuesday. She brings the mails and official despatches.

All the previously reported particulars of the capture of Fort Macon are confirmed. The fort surrendered on Friday evening, and all the stores and ammunition, the latter in large quantity, were captured. The fort was garrisoned immediately by the troops.

Everything was quiet when the Julia Farrer left. There was no other news from that vicinity.

Only one man is reported killed on our side during the bombardment. The enemy lost seven.

The Wilmington Journal of Wednesday has the following in confirmation of the fall of Fort Macon, telegraphed from here yesterday:—

We have just learned that the fire upon the fort was opened at a quarter before six o'clock on Friday morning, and that the engagement between the fort and the Federal batteries was kept up until seven o'clock that evening, when the fort became wholly untenable, and was surrendered, as before stated. All the guns inside the fort, opposite to the side attacked, were dismounted, and all but three of the guns on the enemy's side were also dismounted. The enemy's central battery of breaching guns was within eleven hundred yards of the fort. The right and left flanking batteries were more distant. It turns out that the report of fifteen of our men having been killed in a scout some days since against the enemy's pickets is untrue. One man only was even wounded, and none were killed until Friday last, the day of the attack upon the fort.

From other accounts it is gathered that during the bombardment of Fort Macon seven rebels were killed and a great many wounded.

Colonel White was killed and fifty men were reported as having been killed by General Burnside.

The Petersburg (Va.) Express of May 1, says that a report was current there of the capture of Wilmington, N. C., by General Burnside.

By the Julia Farrer we have the Union accounts of the fight above Elizabeth City, previously reported. General Reno was despatched by General Burnside on the 17th, with five regiments and four pieces of artillery, as previously stated, to Elizabeth City, thence to move in the direction of Norfolk.

General Reno landed at Elizabeth City, and sent Colonel Hawkins by a circuitous route to get in front of the enemy, and followed with a party of the remaining forces. After marching twenty miles the enemy was found in a wooded, which commanded the approaches over the open fields. Colonel Howard, of the marine artillery, in advance, fired upon the enemy, and our pieces were put in position for a three hours' artillery duel. Colonel Hawkins' forces got astray, and found themselves four miles in General Reno's rear.

General Reno sent regiments to the right and left, to outflank the enemy, the movement being finely executed, and there was a prospect of bagging the whole rebel force. When Colonel Hawkins came up, General Reno ordered him to the right, but coming into the open field, he charged on the enemy in the rear, so that the clearing, and the result of the battle, he returned to Elizabeth City. Having not enough weapons, and the men being exhausted by a severe march, seventeen of our wounded were left on the field in charge of a surgeon, with a flag of truce. There have since arrived at Fortress Monroe. The enemy's loss is larger than ours.

A charge was then made by the other regiments on both flanks of the enemy, who was put to rout and retreated to the canal locks, and thence to Norfolk.

General Reno pronounces this one of the most brilliant affairs he ever saw.

Our loss in commissioned officers was—killed one, wounded seven; non-commissioned officers, killed two, wounded thirteen; privates killed six, wounded forty.

General Burnside positively ordered General Reno not to advance any farther toward Norfolk, the object being to keep the strength of the army in the rear, so that, should the enemy make a stand, the army could be brought to bear upon the field of battle, and the remaining six hours of the day of battle, he returned to Elizabeth City. Having not enough weapons, and the men being exhausted by a severe march, seventeen of our wounded were left on the field in charge of a surgeon, with a flag of truce. There have since arrived at Fortress Monroe. The enemy's loss is larger than ours.

The flag of truce of today has not yet returned.

IMPORTANT FROM THE MISSISSIPPI.

Reported Capture of Baton Rouge, the Capital of Louisiana—Preparations for a General Attack on Fort Wright.

Chicago, May 2, 1862.
A special despatch to the Chicago Tribune, from Cairo, Mo., says:—

From the fleet town of the capture of Baton Rouge and the Confederate arrest.

Cairo, May 2, 1862.
The mortars have continued firing at Fort Wright at intervals of ten minutes. The Rebels are preparing for a general attack on the fort. An attack on our fort was expected on Tuesday from the rebel gunboats. Our batteries formed in line of battle, but no demonstrations were made.

The river is stationary, and eight inches higher than ever before.

The Rebel "Situation" on the Mississippi.
(Correspondence of the Richmond Examiner, April 27.)

Island No. 10, as far as regards its future relations to the Southern Confederacy, is also among the things that were. Its eighty miles and eleven hundred men and gunboats have been sunk, twelve or fifteen hundred men have been made prisoners together with General Mitchell, the commander, and the remainder, who remain, are now struggling into Memphis to squads of five, ten or fifty, as the case may be. News will doubtless be given in the papers of the capture of the island, and the many instances, the men have to make for miles up the river.

All our forces had been removed to the main land from the island, and here they were surrounded by the enemy and hemmed in beyond the hope of escape, and only by individual ones. The surrender took place on Tuesday morning. The first notification of danger was the presence of a gunboat, which in a daring manner had run the gauntlet of the batteries during a storm on Saturday night. The gunboat had been on the island side and was engaged in the Mississippi below the island. Then fell our batteries, one by one, and finally the island itself.

The next point of defense above is a strong bluff, and this is said to have been shelled yesterday. Its position is considered impregnable, and a sufficient force of troops, if it falls to come upon anything as certain as it is possible to have living, therefore, upon that.

If it falls, the spring eternal in the human breast.

At Fort Pillow falls, of course the Rebels will use it, and the program is. It is not probable that with the risk and loss of nearly a hundred lives, the enemy will stop with a small force of men, but it is probable that a large force will be sent to take the fort.

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NEWS FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

Reported Evacuation of Corinth and Memphis.

The Rebels Inconceivable Over the Loss of New Orleans.

Execution of a Union Man as a Spy in Richmond.

Resignation of Rebel Naval Officers.

Fortress Monroe, May 1, 1862.
The weather today is warm and clear, and highly favorable for the operations of the army. Three or four rebel boats made their appearance off Sewall's Point this morning, and started to be placing booby traps to mark the channel.

A flag of truce from the Rebels arrived this afternoon brought down an English cottonman and several newspapers. By this arrival we were furnished with further particulars of the capture of Fort Macon and something additional with regard to the fall of New Orleans, together with other interesting items.

The Norfolk Day Book of this (Thursday) morning says that no telegraphic despatches were received last night. An order from Major General Pakenham prohibits all hucksters with the military in the district of Norfolk, and the privilege of selling poultry, game, fish, fruit, vegetables, &c., is restricted to those who raise or catch the same. Another order extends the privilege of bringing oxen to market from May 1 to June 1, and allows butchers to sell by retail.

In regard to the Rebels, a reliable correspondent of the Petersburg Express, under date of the 29th of April, says:—

All we are expecting to hear something from the Virginia this morning; but the Norfolk Day Book is as silent as the grave upon the subject. I forbear to repeat rumors.

What the Rebels are doing in the above paragraph may possibly be inferred from the fact that a rumor was taken from Norfolk to Petersburg yesterday that a very prominent Norfolk officer had resigned his commission.

The Petersburg Express of today says that many rumors were in circulation yesterday, among them a report of the evacuation of Memphis and Corinth.

The Richmond Dispatch of today says "that the panic on the subject of a surrender of food is one of the most causeless imaginable. The road from Danville to Greensboro is rapidly constructed, and will open North Carolina, Tennessee and Ohio Georgia and South Carolina for supplies from the whole State of Virginia." How consistent the panic is, it is difficult to say. It is inferred from the fact that in an adjoining column of the same paper is chronicled the sale of butter at \$1.40 per pound in the city market.

Six Yankees, seven traitors and one constant Confederate soldier arrived in Richmond yesterday. The former belonged to an Ohio regiment, and were captured in both counties, Virginia.

The Richmond Dispatch of yesterday records the execution, as a spy, on the 25th of April, of Timothy Webster. Mrs. Webster, who was arrested with her husband, is still at Castle Okear. Webster is said to be the first spy executed by the Rebels. What if the Federal Government should execute hanging spies?

There are no telegraphic despatches in any of the morning papers of today.

The following additional items regarding the fall of New Orleans are all that can be gleaned from the papers:—

Commodore Farragut had proposed terms of capitulation to Major Monroe, which the latter had accepted, and the city of New Orleans was at last secured by a battalion of marine corps. General Butler's forces were within a few miles of the city, having landed on Lake Pontchartrain.

A note from Captain Henry A. Goddard, of the steamship Arago, informs your correspondent that there is no truth in the published communication signed R. B. Crockett, in reference to the attempt of two boats crews from that vessel to attack a battery on Sewall's Point a few nights since. The gentleman named in charge of the boat—Messrs. Tolson and Brown—are officers on the Arago; but no such person is known as being on it.

Information was received at Norfolk yesterday that Captain Mitchell, the supposed commander of the gunboat Louisiana, had been badly wounded—when or where not stated. From the same source it was also learned that Captain Thomas Huger, supposed to be the commander of the Molle, was mortally wounded in the same manner.

From the Petersburg Express and Norfolk Day Book of today I glean the following:—

General Fremont and seven hundred Union prisoners had arrived at Selma, Alabama. The officers were to be sent to Talladega, and the privates to Montgomery.

A large fire occurred in Aberdeen on Friday last, by which a large flour mill and machine shop was destroyed. The editor states "that an enemy hath come this."

The Rebels are inoperable in their waiting over the fall of New Orleans, some charging General Lovell with treachery. Commodore Hollins passed through Columbia, S. C., en route for Richmond, on Saturday. He expressed himself as perfectly amazed at the fall of the Crescent City. He stated that there were one hundred heavy guns in position on the batteries of Fort Jackson and the city, that the Louisiana was ready and waiting, that numerous boarding parties, composed of able young men, were organized to board and take the national vessel at all hazards, and that the Mississippi, the consort of the Virginia, although unfinished, could, if necessary, be brought into action.

The rebel Brigadier General Glendon was announced to have died from wounds received at Shiloh.

Fortress Monroe, May 2, 1862.
The French war steamer Gascogne arrived from Washington this afternoon.

Three refugees from Norfolk left last night in a row-boat, arriving at Baltimore this morning. There is little news, except a repetition of previous reports.

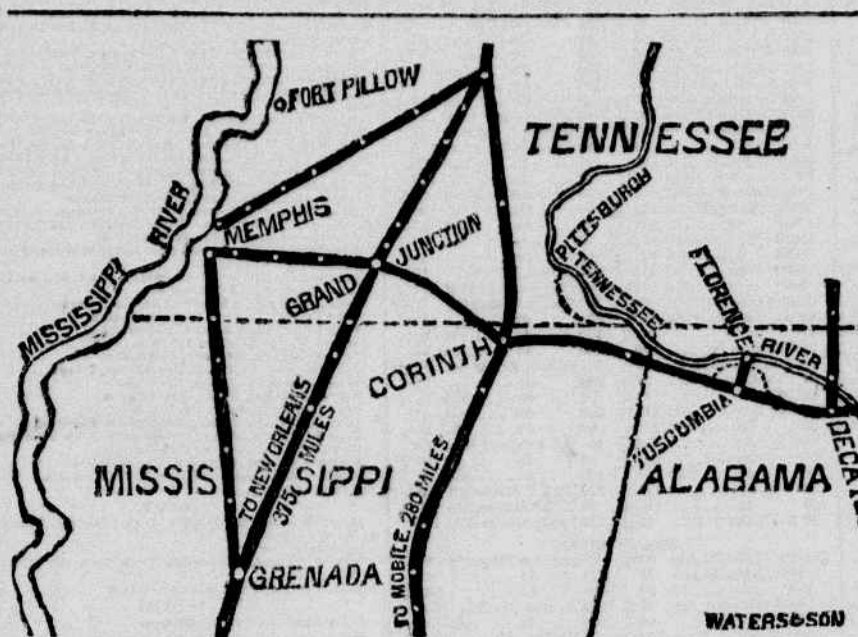
Commodore Pinball retained under orders on Monday, and sailed; but, opening them in Elizabeth City, found it was ordered to run the blockade and proceed to York River. He thereupon returned to Norfolk, and immediately resigned his commission, together with his chief officers.

There was general expectation in Norfolk that the Marimac would come out for the last three or four days. Refugees say that there are several hundred Union men in Norfolk known to be such, and many others, who keep quiet, including many of the soldiers. There are six or seven thousand troops under General Ezer between Pig Point and Norfolk.

Three companies in Portsmouth rebelled and attacked arms a few days since. It is also reported that part of General Magruder's forces had been stationed at Norfolk—whether recently or not is not stated—calculated to be managed under water by one man, and be propelled by him under the vessel to be destroyed. It is said to be five or six feet long.

PROBABLE RETREAT OF BEAUREGARD TO GRAND JUNCTION.

Map Showing the Position of Grand Junction and the Different Routes Leading Therefrom.



THE FLIGHT OF THE REBEL CONGRESS.

The Richmond Press on the "Skeetadillo" of the Members.
(From the Richmond Examiner, April 22.)

If there be any moderns so outrageously brave that cannot admit that light under any circumstances, we say, that I will not meet them with a sword, but with a pen. I will say to any man in the nation, I say, or rather, I will say, that I will not meet them with a sword, but with a pen. I will say to any man in the nation, I say, or rather, I will say, that I will not meet them with a sword, but with a pen.

By such reasoning does the immortal Pakenham justify the "flying back" of a favored class, and in searching for a good place for the dispersion of our Congress, we find the "Skeetadillo" of the Members.

It would be interesting, if it were not, to read and hear their protests that the Congress is not "flying back," but that it is "flying forward." It would be interesting, if it were not, to read and hear their protests that the Congress is not "flying back," but that it is "flying forward."

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HIGHLY IMPORTANT DIPLOMATIC MOVEMENTS IN WASHINGTON.

Results of M. Mercier's Visit to Richmond.

Reported Consultation Between the Cabinet and the Diplomatic Corps.

AN AMNESTY UNDER CONSIDERATION.

NAPOLEON'S SECRET DESIGNS.

Another Effort to be Made to Secure the Recognition of Southern Nationality.

Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, May 1, 1862.
About two months ago I stated that there was in our contemplation by the government an "amnesty" measure; that then it was proposed to offer amnesty as soon as our power extended over Richmond and a few other specified places. Now, I learn—not in so many words directly, but in inference indirectly—that the "subject matter" of such "amnesty" measure is actually under consideration, and may soon be issued, the whole depending on the immediate success or defeat of our arms.

I was told some time ago that such amnesty would be extended to all except Davis and his Cabinet and the Confederate major and brigadier generals, with a few prominent and eminent civilians.

This is all that I know of the subject, and this I learned by careful, covert, and not direct inquiry.

WASHINGTON, May 1, 1862.
The evening before last eight o'clock, there was an extraordinary gathering, not in the form of a dinner party, or an official reception, but in the shape of a grave consultation on our national troubles, between the President, his Cabinet and the diplomatic corps. The impression given to me is that the business in hand was drawn from the late visit of the French Minister to Richmond, and that at the bottom of it lies the question of our attitude. It is believed that Messrs. Mercier and Lord Lyons are very anxious to save the cotton and tobacco of the South, and they think it can be saved through an amicable treaty with Jeff. Davis, as a first step to a treaty of peace. It is believed, too, that M. Mercier, with the occupation of New Orleans by the United States forces, has concluded that the time has come when, under the instructions of the Emperor, he may step forward as a mediator.

I have deemed it best to communicate the following facts to you, that they may be used or not, at your discretion. Some of them seem somewhat in conflict with the views editorially expressed in the HERALD; but I present them just as I learned them.

The most intelligent French residents here are positive that the visit of M. Mercier to Richmond was of the gravest diplomatic character. I am convinced, from what I have learned from these French people, that the Emperor's designs on Mexico are at the bottom of the whole affair, and that in regard to this war all his sympathies are with the South, and not with the United States government. These French people believe that M. Mercier has made a secret treaty with the Confederate government, which is both political and commercial in its character. According to advices received here from Paris, it is believed by the French government that the turning point in the war has now been reached—that the tide of success will now turn, and that the summer campaign will result disastrously to the Federal arms. So far as I can learn, this view is partly based upon the fact that the Union forces will now have to operate so much further from their base of operations, in a hostile country, and generally where their gunboats cannot co-operate, and will also have to encounter the dreaded climatic features of the South. They inform me also that they know that within a few days assurances have been sent to the French government from the highest authority, both here and in Baltimore, that will confirm this view, and that forthwith a certain Union defeat, both at Yorktown and at Corinth. They believe that the ratification of this treaty may depend upon the result of these two engagements. But they believe that, in consideration of a monopoly of commercial advantages, and also in consideration of aid of some kind in his Mexican scheme, Napoleon has agreed to use his good offices with the United States government in putting an end to the war on terms which will secure to the Southern States an independent nationality, and that our failure of the United States to accept his mediation will himself acknowledge the independence of the Southern Confederacy.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, April 23.]

"THE SECRET."
The Charleston Mercury is informed, on undoubted authority, that Monsieur Mercier visited Richmond for the purpose of ascertaining the truth in regard to the Yankee promises to conquer the Confederate States in sixty days. The Mercury learns that he is pretty well satisfied of the absurdity of Yankee expectations, and of the ability of the Confederate States to maintain themselves. His visit was made at the suggestion of Mr. Seward.

We have heard nothing of this previously.

GEN. MITCHELL'S OPERATIONS.

The Expedition to Bridgeport, Ala.—How Beauregard's Despatch to Jeff. Davis was Taken, &c.

MEMPHIS, Ala., May 1, 1862.
Early yesterday morning my troops crossed from the island to the mainland and captured six six-pounder cannon and their ammunition. The inhabitants report the enemy to have retreated in great confusion.

O. M. MITCHELL, Brigadier-General.

BRIDGEPORT, Ala., April 29, 1862.
General Mitchell attacked the force of General E. Kirby Smith at this point this afternoon, and after half an hour's shelling, routed them, with the loss of sixty-three killed and a large number wounded. Three hundred prisoners and two pieces of artillery were taken. The rebels fled across the bridge, burning a span beyond the island, abandoning arms and supplies and cutting off their advances, which had been flank.

CHICKASAW, May 2, 1862.
The Commercial correspondent, with Gen. Mitchell's army, gives the following explanation of the manner in which Gen. Beauregard's despatch was taken at Bridgeport. The wires were broken at a point beyond Hartselle, and Beauregard's despatch was received at Hartselle, and was being prepared by the operator there to be forwarded by locomotive to Chattanooga, and thence repeated by telegraph to Richmond, when Gen. Mitchell surprised the town, and instantly seized the telegraph office. Gen. Mitchell himself solved the cypher after hours of study. There is no doubt as to the genuineness of the despatch.

Interesting from Memphis.

APPROACHED ATTACK FROM THE FEDERAL FLANK—THE CITY TO BE BURNED, ETC.

CAIRO, May 2, 1862.
The latest news from the fleet say it was generally believed that a simultaneous attack would be made by the fleet before the close of the week.

Memphis papers of the 29th say a meeting held the night before last concluded to burn the city in case of the approach of the Federal fleet.

Editorials urgently call on the people to reinforce Price at Fort Wright, as the only hope and salvation of the city.

Movements of European Steamers.

HALEPAP, May 2, 1862.
The steamship America sailed at nine o'clock last evening for Boston, where she will be on Saturday morning.

The steamship Canada, from Boston, arrived here at half-past two o'clock this morning and sailed again at five o'clock for Liverpool